DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Eastern
DIVISION OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

X0002

March 22, 1949

EE - Mr. Reinhardt
Mr. Hooker

You will note that the attached self-explanatory translation of an article appearing in the March 21 issue of Novoye Russkoye Slovo alleges that John Rogge, acting on behalf of Anna Louise Strong, sent a letter to the Department enclosing a letter addressed by Rogge to Stalin with the request that the enclosed letter to Stalin be transmitted by the Department. The article also states that the Department refuses to transmit the letter.

I believe I have checked every possible Division in the Department that might have received such a letter and all disclaim any knowledge of it. I have also checked DC/R, S/S, and PD to see whether a reply has been made. As far as I can determine, it has not.

Subsequently we unearthed the attached article on this same subject which appeared in the New York Herald Tribune on March 20 in which "a State Department representative" is said to have stated that Mr. Rogge's letter had not been received and that he doubted whether it would be forwarded through diplomatic channels. Mr. McDermott informed me today that he was "the Department representative" and when I read the pertinent portion of the Herald Tribune article to him, he had no objection to the way in which it was stated so I assume that the statement attributed to him is substantially correct.

To the best of my knowledge no one else has questioned the Department about this incident. I assume that, as a result of my telephone calls, the letter will be promptly routed to EE if and when it arrives.

V. Johnson
V. Johnson.

EUR:EE:VJ:RF

R. Hamlin 3/26/85